its monthly circular of July 2005 titled "Grain: World Markets & Trade" has stated that India is expected to import about one million tonnes of wheat for the first time in six years because of lower-carry-in stocks, rising consumption etc. Detailed report of FAS is available at www.fas. usda gov/grain/grain. asp.

PSUs being run in Chhattisgarh

†2994. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those public sector undertakings under the Central Government which are being run in the steel, coal petroleum and energy sectors in Chhattisgarh State;

(b) the names of the industries of these public undertakings to whom the status of subsidiary or ancillary industry has been given;

(c) the value of goods purchased by the units of these public sector undertakings located in Chhattisgarh and the value of goods out of the above purchased from ancillary industries after the formation of Chhattisgarh State; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken by Central Government to increase the percentage of purchases to be made from subsidiary industries; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of vegetable oil from Sri Lanka

2995. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Sri Lanka bilateral trade agreement envisages duty free import of specified products, vegetable oil like Vanaspathi;

(b) if so, the details of quantity of vegetable oil imported from Sri Lanka as per above treaty, as on today, category wise;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether rules of origin is strictly followed in import of vegetable oil and vanaspathi;

(d) if so, whether value addition is low;

(e) whether Directorate of vanaspathi is likely to be asked to inquire value addition of vegetable oil and vanaspathi; and

(f) the steps taken to protect vegetable seed farming and vegetable oil industry from unfair competition from above imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For the period April-December, 2004, a quantity of 7902.98 metric tonnes has been imported from Sri Lanka.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Rules of Origin is strictly followed in import of vegetable oil and vanaspathi as per the provisions of India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA).

(e) To ascertain whether the value addition norms as stipulated under India-Sri Lanka FTA were being achieved in Sri Lanka, a technical team comprising Department of Revenue, Directorate of Vanaspathi, Department of Commerce and Ministry of External Affairs alongwith the representatives of domestic vanaspathi units visited Sri Lanka in May 2005 and reported that the Sri Lanka vanaspathi manufacturers fulfilled the value addition norms as stipulated under ISFTA.

(f) The following steps have been taken to protect vegetable seed farming and vegetable oil industry from unfair competition:—

(i) Customs duty on crude palm oil/crude palmolein has been increased from 65% to 80% and on refined palm oil/RBD palmolein has been increased from 75% to 90% with effect from 15.2.2005;

(ii) Better incentives to the farmers through fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of major oilseeds;

(iii) A restructured Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm & Maize" (ISOPOM) is being implemented in certain states for increasing the production and productivity of oilseed including oil palm.

(iv) Assistance is also provided for production of foundation and certified seeds, distribution of certified seeds, distribution of seeds minikits, infrastructure development, integrated pest management (IPM), supply of sprinkler sets and distribution of rhysobium culture etc.

(v) Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is being implemented through National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) for the purchase of oil palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FEBs).

(vi) Higher use of expeller mustard oil in the manufacture of vanaspathi upto 30% has been allowed.

(vii) Use of all edible oils including coconut oil in the manufacture of vanaspathi has been allowed.

Funds with IBEF

2996. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund available with India Brand Equity Foundation for disposal;

(b) which Brand was promoted in the International Market in the Financial year 2004-2005 and how many exporting companies has taken the benefit of IBEF during financial year 2004-2005;

(c) whether any weightage is given for selecting export firm where very high value addition is possible, if the Brand of the product is promoted by IBEF fund;

(d) how much time does it take to consider the application of exporter; and

(e) any specific thrust area of particular product group and any specific restrictions for a particular product group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Total fund available for disposal with India Brand Equity Foundation is around Rs. 80 crores.

(b) IBEF promotes Brand India on an overall basis. It has discontinued giving loans to Corporates to build individual product brands since the year 2003.